



Melissa Lacle, Miss Universe Aruba, is on her way!

It is countdown to the Miss Universe 2006 pageant, which will take place in Los Angeles, California on Sunday, July 23 in the Shrine Auditorium. Aruba's candidate for this prestigious event is ready to depart for two weeks of competitions, fashion shows, and interviews where every gesture and utterance will be evaluated on the road to fame for one special young woman.

One of the most important elements in keeping Melissa looking beautiful and getting the judges' attention will be her clothing, and Rochi De Cuba of the fashion house Trash was awarded that task. He designed ten of the fifteen outfits in which she will be attired at the various events, and he confided that his colors were "inspired by the solar spectrum and the style is Retro-Hollywood meets Modern Diva."

On Saturday evening, Melissa paraded her outfits before the press and fashion aficionados while Ronchi and Jacqueline Suttle, publisher of Xclusivo Magazine and a major sponsor of Melissa looked on. The beautiful pool deck of The Mill Resort was a perfect back drop for the lime green and electric blue of her many outfits, which of course included a "little black dress," a fashion necessity. The crowning glory of her wardrobe, which comes under its own category with the judges, is a breath taking gown designed by Renny Lacle and hand painted by Robby Solognier with scenes of Aruba. This will be Melissa's native outfit, and she sparkled in it, just as did the Swarovski crystals that adorn the dress.

Five of Melissa's outfits were designed by Venezuelan designer Jesus Puevels, for a total of sixteen fabulous fashions that will surely impress the judges as much as they did the audience at The Mill Resort on Saturday night!